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move in a few days, and as they have not yet attacked us, as everyone has expected and as it was reported that they would do, they may leave us in peace. Although I shall continue to work as long as possible, I do not think I can keep the men for more than another ten days, and our only course is then to go to Bagdad to pass the summer, or to await further instructions."

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM REV. MR. USSHER.

"BAGDAD, May 20, 1904.

" . . . For the past two months and more, I have been visiting the various points in Turkey-in-Asia at which excavations are being carried on in the interests of science, wholly for personal pleasure. Yesterday, I returned from a week's visit to Bismya, where I received a cordial welcome from Dr. E. J. Banks, of whose magnificent work under the most trying circumstances, surely you and your University may justly feel proud. . . .

" . . . During the past four months, I have visited all the fields of work in operation except Tel Lo. This includes Nineveh, Nimroud, Kaled Shergat, Toprak Kalah, Babylon, Babel, Nippur, Tel Ibrahim, Fara, Abu Hatab, and Bismya, a journey which none of the explorers in this field have taken. May I not feel somewhat qualified therefore to speak thus? I can assure you after having seen them all, studied their methods, made the personal acquaintance of those in charge, and feeling fairly well informed as to the results, that Bismya will add a crowning glory to them all, not even surpassed by Nippur, of which the University of Pennsylvania is so proud, and justly so. Bismya, after four months of the most economical management, under the trials and deprivations which *none* of the other excavators have experienced because they are all differently situated (save perhaps Fara where the Germans were obliged to cease working), has yielded a sufficient return to reimburse the University of Chicago manifold, and open up new fields of research in the language, religion and arts of pre-Sargonic history hitherto unknown. Bismya seems to have been a ruin before Nippur began to be great, such is its antiquity."

ROBERT FRANCIS HARPER, *Director.*

HASKELL ORIENTAL MUSEUM,

July 20, 1904.

EXCAVATIONS MADE BY THE FRENCH IN SUSA AND
BABYLONIA, 1902-1903.

IN the excavations made in Susa during the winter of 1902-1903 by M. de Morgan and his companions, the ancient city did not disappoint those whom in preceding years it had attracted with its largess of archæological